

ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CONNECTICUT 06232

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, August 27, 2008
School Library

Present: Jay Linddy, Chairman, Michael Davidson, Danny Holtsclaw, Kim Hawes, Wendy Baver, Scott Sauyet

Administration: Andrew Maneggia, Superintendent, H. David Griffin, Principal/Director of Curriculum, Michelle Zeuschner, Assistant Principal, Director of Special Education

Others: Catherine Palazzi (Registrar of Voters), Michael Palazzi, Kyle Penn, John Tworkowski

1.0 Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Linddy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Eagle Scouts John Tworkowski and Kyle Penn.

2.0 Election of Board of Education Officers

Mr. Linddy turned the meeting over to Mr. Maneggia. Mr. Maneggia proceeded with the election of the chairperson.

D. Holtsclaw nominated J. Linddy for Board Chair, seconded by M. Davidson. There were no other nominations. A motion to close nominations was made by M. Davidson. The vote to close was unanimous.

A motion to approve the nomination of J. Linddy as Board Chair was made by M. Davidson, seconded by D. Holtsclaw.

VOTE: 5 – 0 – 1 PASSED

(W. Baver, M. Davidson, K. Hawes, D. Holtsclaw, and J. Linddy voted with the motion, S. Sauyet abstained)

Mr. Maneggia congratulated Mr. Linddy for being re-elected Chairperson of the Board and turned the meeting over to Mr. Linddy who continued with the election of officers.

W. Baver nominated Danny Holtsclaw for Vice Chair, seconded by M. Davidson. No other nominations were made. A motion to close nominations was made by K. Hawes. A vote to close was unanimous.

A motion to approve the nomination of D. Holtsclaw for Vice Chair was made by J. Linddy and seconded by M. Davidson.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

(W. Bayer, M. Davidson, K. Hawes, D. Holtsclaw, J. Linddy, and S. Sauyet voted with the motion)

M. Davidson nominated S. Sauyet for Secretary, seconded by D. Holtsclaw. A motion to close nominations was made by M. Davidson. A vote to close was unanimous.

A motion to approve the nomination of S. Sauyet for Board Secretary was made by J. Linddy and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 5 – 0 – 1 PASSED

(W. Bayer, M. Davidson, K. Hawes, D. Holtsclaw and J. Linddy voted with the motion, S. Sauyet abstained)

3.0 Comments from the Public: None.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting of June 11, 2008

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2008 regular meeting, as corrected, was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by D. Holtsclaw.

VOTE: 3 – 3 – 0 PASSED

(M. Davidson, W. Bayer and D. Holtsclaw abstained)

5.0 Opportunity to Add or Delete Agenda Items

A motion to add item 8.6 regarding the appointment of a Policy Committee was made S. Sauyet and seconded by D. Holtsclaw.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

A motion to add item 8.7 regarding the purchase of physical education equipment was made by D. Holtsclaw and seconded by M. Davidson.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

6.0 Celebrations: J. Linddy congratulated the administration on a very successful first day of school, noting how well prepared the teachers and staff were. On behalf of the Board, J. Linddy welcomed the three new staff members.

7.0 Communications

7.1 Chairperson's Oral Report: none.

7.2 Assistant Principal/Director of Special Education's Report: as presented in packages.

7.3 Principal/Director of Curriculum's Report: as presented in packages.

7.4 Superintendent's Report: as presented in packages.

Over the summer, the state legislature approved \$6.5 million in energy assistance for local and regional schools. The state has given no indication of Andover's share.

7.5 Enrollment Report: as presented in packages.

7.6 Health Room Report: as presented in packages.

7.7 Financial Report: as presented in packages. The average school budget increase statewide was 4.35%. Andover's was 3.75%.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Voting in the School

In a letter dated June 17, 2008, Cathy Palazzi of the Andover Registrar of Voters requested the use of the school gymnasium for the federal election on November 4, 2008. The issues of student safety, building security and disruption to school routine were major factors in the Board's consideration of the request.

S. Sauyet made a motion to approve the use of the gymnasium for the federal election, but the motion did not carry for lack of a second motion.

A motion to deny the Andover Registrar of Voter's request for use of the school gymnasium to conduct the federal elections was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

8.2 2007 – 2008 Budget Balance

The 2007 – 2008 budget year ended with a \$228,555.58 balance, which can be attributed to grants, good fuel prices, insurance saving, minimum use of legal services and effective but cost-efficient special education experiences.

Superintendent Maneggia received the Board's authority to lock in to a price of approximately \$3.50 per gallon for oil for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

8.3 Enrollment – Local/State Trends

The Board reviewed a report on the statewide decrease in school enrollment over the last few years, due in large part to smaller families. Presently, there are 338 students enrolled in Andover Elementary. While smaller class size is beneficial to providing individual attention, there are tremendous educational and financial implications. Further research will be conducted to ensure the best use of the school's resources.

8.4 2008 – 2009 Opening Day

Dr. Griffin reported that the first day of school went very smoothly. In accordance with the Technology Plan, Smart Boards are now available in every classroom in grades 1 through 6.

8.5 CMT Results

Overall, the scores show continual progress dating back to 2001. Recommendations regarding curriculum and instruction will be made after further analysis of the results and individual student performance. The administration will report back to the Board with their findings.

8.6 Appointment of Policy Committee

Chairman Linddy appointed S. Sauyet and K. Hawes to the Policy Committee. They will be meeting with a representative from CAFE to revise the policy manual.

A motion to approve the appointment of S. Sauyet and K. Hawes to the Policy Committee was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 5 – 0 – 1 (with M. Davidson voting against)

8.7 Purchase of Physical Education Equipment

Throughout her career at Andover Elementary, Mrs. Valentini purchased gymnasium equipment from her personal expenses. Upon her retirement, she offered to sell the equipment to the school at a discounted rate. The school will purchase \$655 worth of equipment from Mrs. Valentini.

9.0 Personnel

9.1 New Staff

Three new staff members were hired during the summer. Mr. Jon Moynihan will be replacing Mrs. Valentini as the gym teacher. Mrs. Diane Pasay and Mrs. Rebecca D'Amicol will be instructional assistants.

10.0 Comments from the Public: None.

11.0 Upcoming Meetings

11.1 Regular Board Meeting – September 10, 2008

The regular Board meeting of September 10, 2008 has been canceled, as it is only two weeks away. The next Board meeting will be Wednesday, October 8, 2008.

A motion to cancel the regular meeting of September 10, 2008 due to its proximity to the August meeting was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

12.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. was made by M. Davidson and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 6 – 0 – 0 PASSED

Respectfully submitted:
Kristen Frankenberger
Board Clerk